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COUNTRY Poland REPORT 25X1

TOPIC Polish Troops and Military Installations in Gleiwitz (Gliwice) 25X1

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 2 September 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. In October 1952 welcome accorded to the Polish troops of the Gleiwitz (Q 51/Y 37) post on the square in front of the railroad station. While the soldiers received gifts and awards the population had the chance to observe their weapons. The infantrymen, who wore khaki uniforms with red service color, formed two large blocks, each of which was about the size of a battalion. A considerable number of small arms was almost factory new and had slings and straps which were still stiff and little used. The rifles included standard carbines and short rifles with bayonets. The submachine guns included a Soviet-made model with a wooden stock and a round drum magazine and another all-metal model with a clip magazine. The light machine guns were air-cooled and were fed from ammunition belts. The heavy machine guns were an air-cooled Maxim model on two wheels. The mortars were disassembled into the base plate and the barrel, and were carried by the crews. No heavy mortars were observed. When the reception was over the infantry units were marched away, while the trucks, whose number was believed sufficient to carry all the troops, left empty. Besides infantry units, the troops included several units with heavy weapons.

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 unit which had about eight guns of two different models of 57-mm and 76-mm caliber respectively, which were towed by trucks. This AT unit also had two heavier guns, which were towed by full-track vehicles fitted with a box-shaped driver's cab, the gun crews riding on the trucks.

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 a motorized AAA unit which had 10 to 12 guns on four-wheeled chassis. These guns were a light model and had muzzles mounting flash hiders. some heavier AA guns

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 A unit equipped with over a dozen side-car motorcycles, which mounted one machine gun each, and numerous solo motorcycles assembled after the conclusion of the celebration. Two radio trucks with antenna masts were also seen. Besides

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the motorized units [] one horse-drawn battery of light guns, which were towed by four-horse teams and whose caliber did not exceed 100 mm. [] all the abovementioned units were stationed in Gleiwitz. []

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the occupation of the barracks installations prior to April 1953 [] information: []

2. The former Keith Kaserne, [] in the spring of 1953, quartered troops who wore khaki uniforms with red service color. In early April 1953, the area of this barracks installation was enlarged by incorporating the adjoining area of the State Motor Traffic Company including an administration building, the previous drivers' school, a service station, a large garage installation and several wooden sheds. Motor Traffic Company moved to a motor-vehicle repair shop on the east side of former Toster Strasse. In April 1953, the barracks area included three or four quartering buildings besides the integrated installations of the State Motor Traffic Company. The two steel towers of the former German police radio station were still in the barracks yard. No Soviet troops were seen in and around this barracks installation. 25X1
3. In the spring of 1953, the former Neue Artillerie Kaserne quartered Polish troops, whose branch of service was undetermined. Some sections of the former Infanterie Kaserne, which directly adjoined the Neue Artillerie Kaserne to the northeast, were guarded by sentries, who wore khaki uniforms and red service color. In April 1953, the former Neue Artillerie Kaserne on the western edge of the city park still served as a polytechnic school.
4. Prior to the spring of 1953 [] a small number of young soldiers, who wore khaki uniforms and green cap bands [] were quartered in unidentified billets. The bulk of the army soldiers wore red service color.
5. Prior to April 1953 [] a Polish Army unit of 120 to 150 men marching downtown for work at the 1st May Steel Plant. [] billets of a Polish Army labor unit near Makoszowy (Q 51/Y 47), whose soldiers worked in the former Dellbrueck pits. Prior to April 1953, no tanks were observed in the post area, but [] tanks manufactured by the Stalin Steel Plant in Laband (Q 51/Y 38) were being broken in north of the city.
6. [] the former Ulanen Kaserne quartered Polish infantrymen with red service color prior to December 1952. These troops were regularly trained in the training area near Richtersdorf (Q 51/Y 37). The former Keith Kaserne was also occupied by Polish infantrymen who wore khaki uniforms with red service color.
7. In December 1952, the former Infanterie Kaserne still housed a chemical plant, which manufactured pharmaceutical products. Young men were being trained as pharmacists in the laboratories of this plant. Prior to December 1952, the former Alte Artillerie Kaserne near the city park was occupied by a polytechnic school.

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8. Seven or eight low wooden buildings in the east sector of the city, north of the main street to Hindenburg (Q 51/Y 47) and in the close vicinity of the "Waldschloss" Restaurant, quartered a labor unit. The Polish recruiting office (WKR), which formerly was in the hospital immediately southwest of Peter and Paul's church, moved to the former premises of the German military district headquarters directly northwest of the Keith Kaserne and was still observed there in December 1952.

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